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**RAFAEL CRUZ
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**GROUNDS:
JASON HEFNER
SUPERVISOR**

**MARGRIT WITHERS
BRANCH MANAGER**

**AREA J
294 LAKEWOOD BLVD
PARK FOREST, IL
708-481-9280**

Member News



Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of member, Delisa Blackwell, who has passed away. Delisa was a vibrant member of our Marketing Committee helping a great deal with our last Open House. She will be greatly missed.

FALL 2019



Ground's News

- Beautification awards were awarded to 48 of our Area J Members by the Village! Congratulations to all!
- Great News! Your amazing House & Grounds Committee proposed reinstating the yearly reimbursement for plants, flowers, etc. Starting in 2020, members can receive up to \$30 in refunds. Details to come!
- There are a few garbage cans on the property for trash. Please don't throw in any yard waste, branches, weeds or clippings in them. The most abused is the trash can at the small park between J-6 & J-7.
- Please do not remove any white flags from the ground with Dutch Valley's information. If you need white plain flags to indicate you don't want Dutch Valley to fertilize your lawn, please stop by the office.
- Star Disposal will pick up large bulk items from the curb on Tuesdays and Fridays. Please don't set items out until after 6 p.m. the night before. Food must always be in a bag inside your can and never at the curb.

CODE RED

REGISTER for **CODE RED** emergency communication system at the Village of Park Forest or its website under Resident Services - Emergency Notifications. You will receive emergency messages and important information which may require action on your part. A good example was the mandatory water boil this summer. We have printed Code Red forms that the village faxed to us in case you don't have internet access. After you fill it out you will need to take it to the village.



Reminders

GARDEN HOSE DISCONNECT

We will be disconnecting hoses before below freezing temperatures. If hoses are left attached over the winter, the faucet can freeze and crack which can cause basement flooding.

GUTTER CLEANING

Chris and his crew with Gutters Cleaned Cheap will be out to clean all gutters on the property this fall. A robo-call will be sent out. We want to wait until all the leaves fall, but clean them before it snows. This is always a hard call.

LAWN BAGS

November 30th is the last day for lawn bag pick up. Members are responsible for bagging their own leaves using approved bags or stickers. Or, you can rake them onto the parkway or mall area 2-3 feet from the sidewalk until December 1st. Please do not include branches, twigs or other refuse as these items will clog the pickup equipment. Please do not put leaves in the mall or parkway after December 1st.

This a great time to clean up your yards and flower beds, cut back your perennials, and decide if you want to keep old plants or have all grass in your yard which is easier to maintain.

LAWN FEES

**The monthly lawn payment plan continues thru December 2019. All unpaid lawn fees must be paid in full by December. Remember, the payment plan is March through December, or pay in full.

**All monthly carrying charges, late fees and lawn fees are due IN FULL each month.



Park Forest Cooperative III Area J



A message from Police Chief Christopher Mannino:

"Last week during National Night Out, I found myself standing in the middle of the playground of one of our multi-family housing cooperatives with about 100 people gathered for their main event, when Tania, the property manager, asked if I wanted to say something to those gathered. But before I spoke, she asked if anyone wanted to sing. I found the request a bit strange and at first, no one budged, but then one woman volunteered, "Sure, I'll sing a song".

Unbeknownst to anyone else, this part of the evening had been pre-arranged between Tania and the resident. The volunteer came up and stood next to me, and as she began to sing the first few notes of our National Anthem, upon recognizing the song the men removed their hats and many present placed their hands over their hearts. I looked around as our surprise-vocalist sang a capella one of the most beautiful renditions of the Star Spangled Banner I've heard, and I couldn't help but be moved by the symbolism of this incredibly diverse group of residents of all manner of races and ages, hands over hearts, singing along. A bald eagle could have flown overhead and the moment couldn't have been any more American than it already was.

The media is rife with examples of tensions of all types in this country, and I will admit that at times I worry about the direction of our America as we seem to descend deeper into entrenched positions and defined categories that separate us. But as I reflect on my own experiences in Park Forest, I'm reminded that either we have something really special, or the story we see played out on the nightly news simply isn't representative of the broader picture. While we are not without challenges and neither do I mean to suggest that Park Forest is a utopia without conflicts, still, so many moments I have experienced or have witnessed in this Village give me hope.

This picture was taken a few minutes after the described moment. This is Park Forest. This, is America."



Members,

Thank you to all our court captains and members that helped make the National Night Out a tremendous success, with a special shout out to Keisha Hughes, our planned surprise talented singer! We hope you all met a new neighbor and friend. As we were packing up after the event, Euricka asked, "how are we going to top that next year?" Once we read Chief Mannino's beautiful words above, Rosane stated we need to have a bald eagle fly over our event next year. Well, you won't know what we come up with until it comes around again and you PARTICIPATE. We hope to see even more of you then!

Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting, and autumn a mosaic of them all.
Stanley Horowitz

Tania Schreiber,
property manager

Margrit's Corner: You must be wondering what a janitor cart is doing on the front page of this newsletter. Well, four years ago it served me as a holder of garden tools while walking through the 44 acres of our Co-op property to weed, plant and pick up trash (way before my branch manager position!) Life was so simple! Truth is, I was scared to drive the Gator. I had visions of broken trees, dented cars, and knocked to the ground members. To me, it was the size of a Humvee. My bosses were kind to whimsical me. I came around quickly to reign in my fear and bond with my Gator. Four years now of zooming around and the end of an embarrassment to my co-workers and myself. I'm ready now (almost) to drive one of our new monster trucks (summer driving only), NO plow, NO salter please. That's my story and I'm sticking to it!



Margrit Withers, grounds branch manager



Just getting ready to mix a little concrete... (Just kidding...Sergio was close by.

Sales Report

By Rosane Krumb

This year we have sold 14 units. There are currently 13 units for sale in Area J and 3 of those have contracts with a scheduled closing date.

Sales during the summer were slower than past years, but the Fall temperatures seem to have encouraged buyers. There were 5 units that sold in September and 3 more will complete their sale in October. That is certainly great for all of our sellers.

As always, if your home is for sale, continue to keep your home clean, decluttered and odor free. This will help make a good impression on your prospective buyer.



Something to think about: "Kindness has a beautiful way of reaching down into a weary heart & making it shine like the rising sun."

Author Unknown

INFO

◆ STARTING NOVEMBER 4TH OUR NEW OFFICE HOURS WILL BE:
MONDAY -FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

◆ NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE OCTOBER 22ND AT 6:30 P.M.

◆ NOVEMBER 3RD TIME TO MOVE YOUR CLOCKS BACK

OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

◆ THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28TH & FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29TH

◆ TUESDAY DECEMBER 24TH & WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25TH

◆ TUESDAY DECEMBER 31ST & WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1ST

PLEASE CALL 708-481-9575

FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY!

THANK YOU!

GARBAGE/RECYCLE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE :

◆ NOVEMBER 28TH, 2019 – THANKSGIVING DAY: CLOSED
TUESDAY GARBAGE PICK-UP WILL BE ON SCHEDULE. THURSDAY RECYCLE & FRIDAY GARBAGE PICK UP WILL BE DELAYED ONE DAY FOR THIS WEEK ONLY.

◆ DECEMBER 25TH, 2019 – CHRISTMAS DAY: CLOSED
TUESDAY-FRIDAY GARBAGE PICK UP AND THURSDAY RECYCLE WILL BE DELAYED ONE DAY FOR THIS WEEK ONLY.

◆ JANUARY 1ST, 2020 – NEW YEAR'S DAY: CLOSED
TUESDAY-FRIDAY GARBAGE PICK UP AND THURSDAY RECYCLE WILL BE DELAYED ONE DAY FOR THIS WEEK ONLY.



The Peterson Family J-13
The Breese Family J-2
The Maenza Family J-11
The McNair Family J-6
The Jostes Family J-13
The Clayton Family Krotiak
The Askew/Walker Family Krotiak
The Klingelschmitt Family Krotiak

NO LOCK-OUT POLICY



You are responsible for re-entry to your unit if you are locked out.

- 1) Leave a key with a trusted family member, friend or neighbor
 - 2) Utilize a lock box on your door
 - 3) Hide a key in a secret place
 - 4) Call a locksmith. If the locksmith drills out your lock, you will be billed for repairs.
 - 5) Last Resort: break a window. You will be responsible for repairs.
- Extra keys can be made at Elmer and Sons @ 3001 Chicago Road in Steger, IL 60475. They will also do lockouts between 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. on weekdays. Call 708-755-5283.

Maintenance Happenings



It's THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN..... We will be changing all members batteries in 3 smoke detectors & 1 CO detector starting on Monday, November 4th through Wednesday, November 27th. Expired smoke detectors will be replaced. **A separate flyer will be delivered with the battery schedule.** During this time we will once again check to make sure every furnace filter has been changed recently. Remember, the recommended furnace filters are for a month, and can be purchased at the office or hardware stores. A dirty filter can limit proper air flow and cause unnecessary stress on your furnace. Pleated filters are not recommended since they restrict air flow.

MAINTENANCE TIP: IN THE WINTER, WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO PARK AS FAR BACK INTO YOUR PARKING SPACE AND SHOVEL ALL THE SNOW TOWARD THE BACK OF YOUR VEHICLE NOT TO THE FRONT OF THE COURT.

Water Main Breaks: There was a Village water main break over a recent weekend on Fir Street. It was mentioned to the office that members were upset that the office did not notify them that their water was shut off for one hour during this emergency water main repair. Please know that anything scheduled from the Village during office hours will be relayed to our members. If there is an emergency after hours, please contact the police non-emergency at 708-748-4701 for any updates.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Recently Completed Projects

- Siding installation at 180-186 Park (from termite damage years ago)
- Front Porch Replacements: 168, 170 and 172 Park, 180, 182, 184 and 186 Park
- Rear Porch Base Reconstruction with vinyl handrails: 2 double porches (4 units) 180, 182, 184, 186 Park
- Tub Replacements: 7 units this year
- Sidewalk and step replacements by priority (On-going)
- Gutters & downspouts inspected, repaired or replaced
- Downspout underground extensions
- Curb painting
- Tuck-pointing as needed
- Handrails: repaired and painted (On-Going)
- Kitchen Floors: 15 completed this year

Future Projects Include:

- Lining Sewer Mains
- Furnace clean and checks
- Gutter Cleaning
- Basement Waterproofing Repairs (Staff has been checking and prioritizing their fall/winter repair schedule)
- Finished basements will be worked on in the order the members call in to let us know they have removed finished walls. We can not work on two basements at the same time. Thanks for your patience.
- Plaster tickets (on-going)
- Smoke detector replacements (expired units) w/battery changes
- Fall Cleanup
- Tree trimming & removal
- Handrail repair and painting
- New marketing signs
- Curb painting after seal coating or paving

The House & Grounds

Committee

Reconvening

next

spring

Liaison:

Kathy Wallace

Chairperson:

Bernadette Maune

The Marketing

Committee

Meets the

2nd Tuesday of
each month

@ 7 PM

here at the office.

Liaison:

Carol Macklin

The Board of

Directors

Meets the

4th Tuesday of
each month

@ 6:30 PM

here at the office.

Board President:

Kitty Watson



We are looking for volunteers for an Aging Committee.